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KING OF HIPSTERS GETS DIRTY {page 13}

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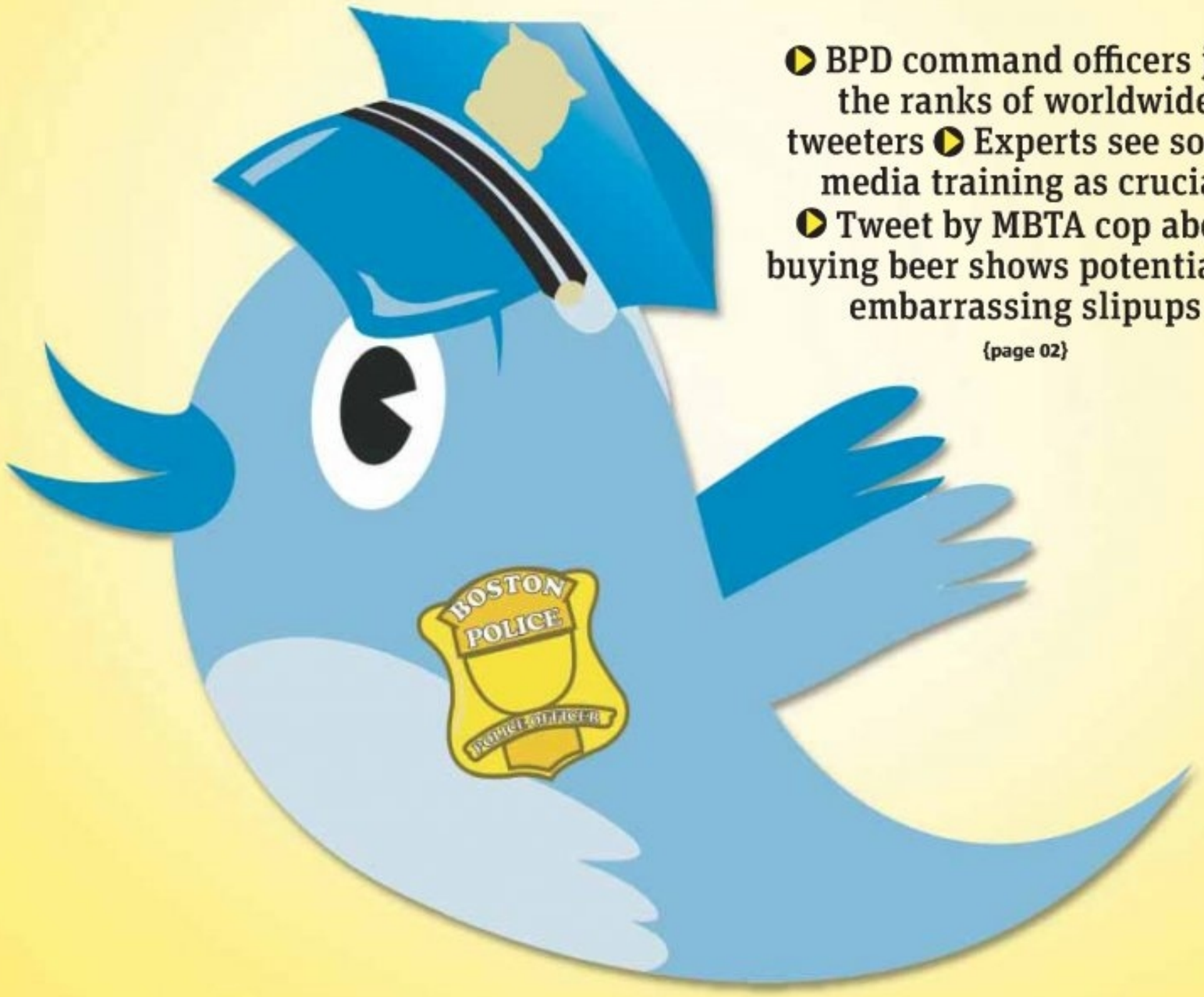
BOSTON
Tuesday, March 27, 2012

TO PROTECT AND TO TWEET



- BPD command officers join the ranks of worldwide tweeters
- Experts see social media training as crucial
- Tweet by MBTA cop about buying beer shows potential for embarrassing slipups

{page 02}

Metropolitik

Gaffe-gate '12: Obama, rivals test press bias

- President overheard telling world leader more 'flexibility' after Nov. elections
- But is this really a surprise? {page 08}

Embracing the 'Delta Spirit'

One bar crawl, one show, many revelations for this indie band from San Diego {page 12}

Transgender discrimination

Pageant entrant protests her elimination from contest after birth gender revealed {page 10}

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In the news

$1M

Gabriel Megna, 48, was held on $1 million bail after pleading not guilty in court yesterday to charges stemming from an armed bank robbery in Saugus over the weekend. Megna's alleged partner, Michael Ginnetti, 38, was held without bail.
METRO/BOSTON.COM

Today's local tweet

"Gotta thank Jesus for getting me to where I am today. Also the MBTA. Yeah you guys were REALLY helpful, too."
@LEAHAHERZ, COUNTING HER BLESSINGS IN LIFE AND ON PUBLIC TRANSIT

Basketball. Culture

▶ Star player Slick Willie Shaw dribbled and spun basketballs across the bridge while traveling part of the Freedom Trail, and he ended his slam-dunk appearance at the DeFilippo Playground.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Globetrotters dribble down Freedom Trail

The Harlem Globetrotters tipped off their weeklong stay in Boston with a stroll across the Charlestown Bridge on Monday. At the end of the week, the Globetrotters will show their skills during two games at the TD Garden on Saturday, March 31 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. METRO

Boston police brass take their tactics to Twitter

- Superior officers are taking to Twitter and reaching out to residents
- Community leaders see benefit
- Social media experts say training is key

They've been trained to shoot, schooled in criminal law and tasked with fighting bad guys.

Now they're trying to master the art of the tweet.

Within the past month, about a dozen superior officers of the Boston Police Department's command staff — mostly superintendents and deputies — set up individual Twitter pages and started tweeting.

Having individual officers tweet is a rarity for departments of any size.

It was a directive from Commissioner Ed Davis, according to a tweet from Deputy Superintendent Steven Whitman.

Since taking control of the department more than five years ago, Davis has pushed his philosophy of community policing. Now the focus has seemingly shifted to Boston's online community.

A department spokeswoman said they are working on the details of their Twitter expansion and would have more details in the future.

Social media experts said it's the right move for the department.

"To have it just be a … public information officer isn't what the citizens want," said Lauri Stevens, a Boston-area social media strategist for law enforcement agencies. "They want to hear from cops that they know. They don't want to hear corporate speak."

Stevens said social media training is vital because the tweets are seen as a reflection of the department.

What's also crucial, she said, is the interaction. BPD follows about 40 people, and Stevens said that number needs to increase so that there can be online community engagement and a successful Twitter conversation.

Emmett Folgert, the head of the Dorchester Youth Collaborative, said he supports the initiative because youth are constantly on social media. "My young staff and I get texts constantly, and social media is a very important part of our work now," he said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

Quoted

"It's great … [because] the phone is basically dead."
EMMETT FOLGERT, DORCHESTER YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Lessons learned?

BOSTON. Experts said training the officers to use social media is crucial. That point is emphasized by a mistake made by another police department earlier this year.

A tweet was posted on the Twitter feed of the MBTA Transit Police that said "was going to bring 12 pack u need beer."

Police officials said it was a mistake by an off-duty officer who meant to send a text message before heading to a Super Bowl party. METRO

No foul play in body found on boat

BOSTON. State police said no foul play was involved after finding a body in a boat docked at the Boston Fish Pier on Sunday.

According to police reports, troopers and detectives responded to the fishing vessel, the "Sammy Jo," at the pier to investigate a report of an unresponsive person.
METRO

New club for Sox season ticket holders

BOSTON. Boston Red Sox season ticket-holders are getting a little more luxury in their lives.

As part of Fenway Park's centennial celebration, a new venue, dubbed "The Royal Rooters Club."
METRO

*AS OF SUNDAY

Followers

Boston boasts the most Twitter account followers among police departments.

Their tweets

- "Nice arrest … Gun arrests are never routine but these officers are out there every day doing great work" @DEPUTYDALEY
- "Local business concerned about loitering in newmarket sq area" @DEPUTYWHITMAN
- "Walking the beat in Chinatown. It's a beautiful night out" @SUPERFONG1

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T cops once again nab phone bandit

East Boston man, already arrested in connection with phone robbery, allegedly stole day he skipped court

Transit police made a "significant" bust when they put an end to an alleged cell phone snatching suspect's series of unarmed robberies on the T.

According to Transit police reports, Angel Carpio, 22, East Boston, was arrested on March 21, and is being held on $2,000 cash bail and on an ICE detainer.

Carpio was wanted in connection with five unarmed robberies that occurred on the MBTA, according to police.

On Sunday, March 18, Carpio was taken into custody after allegedly stealing an iPhone from a victim exiting a train at Haymarket Station.

Carpio was released on bail, but failed to appear in court the next day.

Transit police issued a warrant for Carpio's arrest and he was subsequently apprehended again on March 21 at Sullivan Station.

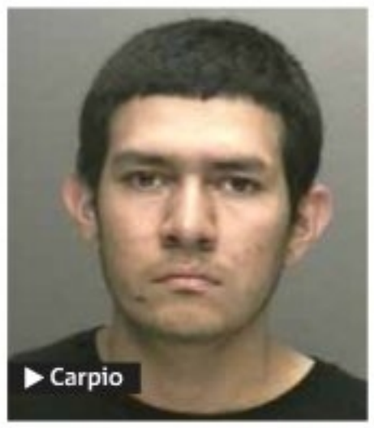
During an investigation, T detectives charged Carpio with two additional unarmed robberies which occurred at Wellington Station on March 9 and Sullivan Station on March 19. In both instances, police said Carpio waited for train doors to open before allegedly grabbing phones from riders' hands.

Detectives are seeking criminal complaints against Carpio for two other unarmed robberies from Dec. 4, 2011, at Airport Station, and March 20, at the Community College stop.

MBTA police rolled out a campaign earlier this year reminding riders to stay alert.

Smartphone theft on the MBTA increased since 2010, according to recent property theft reports from transit officials.

By October 2011, 98 Apple products had been stolen from people while waiting at T stations.



▶ Carpio

"Any time new technology is introduced to the public there can be a spike in this type of crime."

TRANSIT POLICE DEPUTY CHIEF LEWIS BEST

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

Violence. Prevention

▶ Roughly 620 childrens' shoes covered a staircase at the State House on Monday to represent the average number of kids abused or neglected each week in the Bay State.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Children step up with sneakers about child abuse

The event, "Step Up for Prevention!," was sponsored by Reebok and the Boston Bruins, with the aim of bringing awareness to the issue of child abuse and how to prevent it. The average number of children abused has decreased in recent years, according to state officials.

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Wife says accused US soldier had no issues

WASHINGTON. The wife of a U.S. Army sergeant accused of killing 17 Afghan civilians said she does not believe her husband could have carried out the massacre and that she was confident he was fine before his latest deployment.

Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, a decorated 38-year-old veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, was charged last week with 17 counts of murder for killing eight adults and nine children and six counts each of assault and attempted murder for attacking two other adults and four children.

The incident in southern Afghanistan has further strained U.S.-Afghan relations after more than 10 years of war. **REUTERS**

MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The fatal shooting of an unarmed Florida teen by a neighborhood watch member has set off a national uproar.

Pot residue in bookbag

Trayvon Martin had been suspended from his Miami high school 10 days before his death for having marijuana residue in his book bag, a family spokesman said yesterday.

The residue was found in a plastic bag inside Martin's book bag, family spokesman Ryan Julison said.

"There was no substance found. There was a baggie that school officials believe may have formerly contained marijuana. There was no arrest or citation from the police," Julison said.

Toxicology test results were still pending on the body of Martin. **REUTERS**

Florida governor: Justice will prevail in shooting case

- 'Still gathering facts' in shooting of Trayvon Martin
- Says calling death a hate crime would be premature

Florida Gov. Rick Scott yesterday cautioned against a rush to judgment in the shooting death of unarmed teenager Trayvon Martin, saying state authorities were still gathering facts.

Martin, a 17-year-old African-American, was killed Feb. 26 while walking through a gated community in an Orlando suburb. George Zimmerman, a white Hispanic neighborhood watch volunteer, believed the young man in a "hoodie" hooded sweatshirt looked suspicious. Zimmerman followed him and an altercation ensued.

Zimmerman's attorney has said Zimmerman acted in self-defense. He has not been arrested.

"Justice will prevail. That's what we all want. We want the know the facts and we want to know that justice happens," Scott said in an interview with Reuters Insider in New York.

Florida law enforcement has been under fire for weeks as protests decrying inaction in the case have spread to cities across the country. Over the weekend, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter told MSNBC he considered the shooting to be "nothing short of an assassination."

Asked if the case rose to the level of a possible hate crime, Scott said such a judgment would be premature.

"Hopefully, it wasn't anything like that, but we don't know enough facts. I mean, my goal is, let's get the facts and let's make sure if somebody did something wrong, let's hold them accountable," he said. **REUTERS**

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Census shows more Americans moved to cities in past decade

WASHINGTON. More Americans are living in cities now than a decade ago, according to U.S. census data released yesterday.

The most urban state is California — one that dominates the popular imagination as a land of empty deserts, open beaches and thick redwood forests — the census numbers showed.

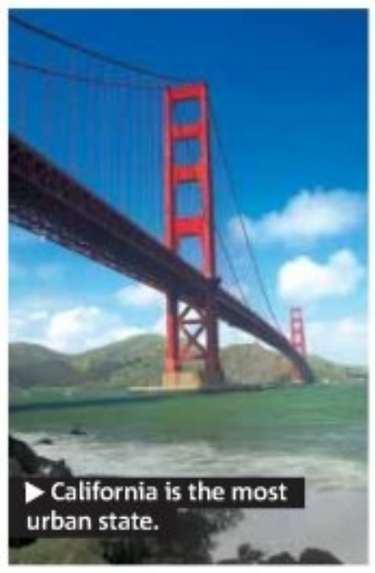
In 2010, a total of 80.7 percent of Americans lived in urban areas, up from 79 percent in 2000.

Conversely, 19.3 percent of the U.S. population lived in rural areas in 2010, down from 21 percent in 2000.

At the same time, the population of urban areas grew by 12.1 percent, much faster than the country's growth rate of 9.7 percent from 2000 to 2010. **REUTERS**

18.4M

The New York and Newark area is still the most populous, with 18.4 million residents, a position it has held since the U.S. Census Bureau first defined urbanized areas in 1950.



▶ California is the most urban state.

Lawyers brand Facebook claim a fraud, call for case rejection

MENLO PARK, CALIF. Facebook Inc. urged a federal judge yesterday to throw out a lawsuit by a New York wood pellet salesman who said he deserves half of founder Mark Zuckerberg's stake in the social media company, calling the case a "fraud."

Paul Ceglia, who has lived in Wellsville, N.Y., sued Zuckerberg and Facebook — now one of the world's most valuable companies — in 2010 in a dispute over a 2003 contract.

Facebook has repeatedly said Ceglia was a fraud and that a "Work for Hire Document" was a forgery and e-mails he purportedly exchanged with Zuckerberg were made up. Last year, the presiding judge in U.S. District Court in Buffalo, N.Y., gave Facebook more time to gather evidence. **REUTERS**

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Obama guilty of being a politician

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Slow news season?

We've officially reached that time in the 2012 presidential campaign when the most interesting story of the day either involves the president being overheard saying something obvious but gaffe-ish to a Russian head of state, or the release of a mysterious video from failed Republican candidate Herman Cain that includes a rabbit being shot to bits and a creepy girl asking whether anyone is confused.

With nothing substantial to discuss, we therefore succumb instead to the insubstantial.

First up: Obama and the hot mic. The president was overheard telling Russian President Dmitry Medvedev yesterday that he needed "space" and "time" to get to a missile defense system that has been bedeviling relations between the two countries for some time.

"On all these issues, but particularly missile defense, this, this can be solved but it's important for him [Putin] to give me space," Obama said. "This is my last election. After my election I have more flexibility."

Many people — overwhelmingly on one side of the aisle, but then, that's the way these things go — are disturbed that a U.S. president would use practical considerations in determining the timing of legislative focus. Some have ratcheted up the rhetoric even higher to allege that Obama is merely waiting for term two to unleash his master plans for America's destruction.

SASHA MORDOVETS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ "Term one, health care; term two, enable America's ancient enemies." (Caught on secret mic hidden in Obama's brain, possibly.)

But is anyone really surprised to learn that presidents hold secret discussions with other world leaders, or that they weigh policy goals with political realities? It seems Obama has waded into a similar puddle as a Romney adviser did last week, when he gave voice to another political truism: that politicians tack to the center in a general election. (For what it's worth, we also deemed Etch-a-Sketch-gate unworthy of our attention, and not only because we're sick to tears of the "-gate" construction.)

Oh, and Herman Cain? Yeah, don't worry about him.

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Metropolitik

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GET FED

Because sometimes you've only got time to skim the headlines:

- "Obama to Putin: I'll Surrender America After Re-election" **BREITBART.COM**
- "The dirty little secret about second-term presidents" **FOREIGNPOLICY.COM**
- "Does Vladimir Putin know more about Obama's second-term agenda than U.S. voters?" **BLOG.AMERICAN.COM**
- "Rabbit 'shot' in strange new Herman Cain video" **POLITICO.COM**
- "Repubs: Dick Cheney heartlessly mocked" **BOSTONHERALD.COM**
- "Rick Santorum Welcomes You To Obama's Murder Colony" **WONKETTE.COM**

He said, we said

"If you haven't cursed out a New York Times reporter during the course of a campaign, you're not really a real Republican, is the way I look at it."

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE RICK SANTORUM YESTERDAY, PLAYING OFF AN INCIDENT IN WHICH HE CURSED AT REPORTER JEFF ZELENY, SAYING, "QUIT DISTORTING MY WORDS. ... IT'S BULLS–." SANTORUM WAS UPSET THAT HE WAS "AGGRESSIVELY ATTACKED" BY ZELENY, WHO REPEATED THE CANDIDATE'S WORDS BACK TO HIM VERBATIM.

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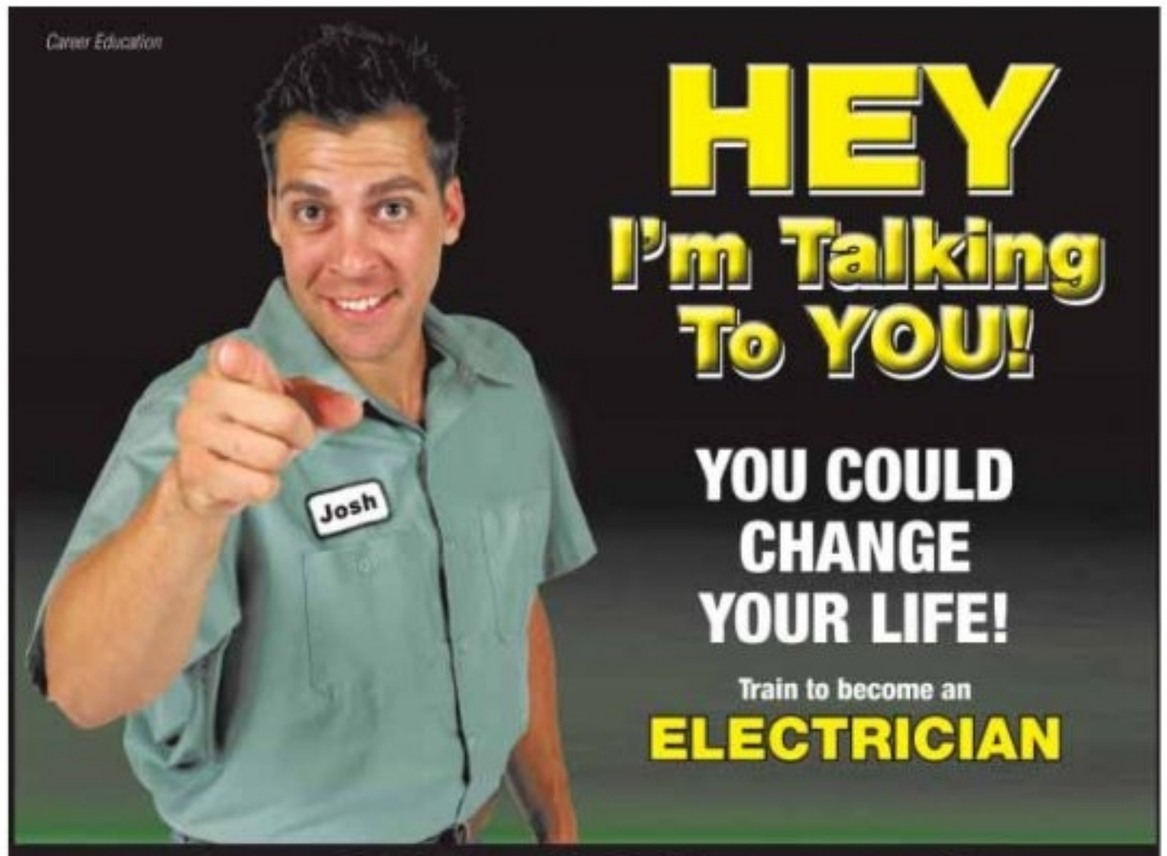

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myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Jenna Talackova removed from Miss Universe Canada for being transgender

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ "I'm disqualified, however I'm not giving up. I'm not going to just let them disqualify me over discrimination." Talackova, right, on her Twitter account.

Is the world ready for a transgender Miss Universe contestant?

The quick answer to this is: No.

The longer explanation has to do with beauty pageant contestant **Jenna Talackova**, 23, who made it to the finals in the Miss Vancouver pageant, but was ultimately ruled ineligible due to her being biologically male. The 6-foot-1-inch stunner did well — and even made it to the finals — but was disqualified after organizers learned she wasn't a naturally born female, according to CTV News.

"Jenna Talackova from Vancouver, British Columbia, will not compete in the 2012 Miss Universe Canada competition because she did not meet the requirements to compete despite having stated otherwise on her entry form," Miss Universe Canada organizers said in a statement. "We do, however, respect her goals, determination and wish her the best."

According to CTV News, Talackova started hormone therapy at 14 and had gender reassignment surgery at 19.

Talackova is claiming discrimination, which Miss Universe Canada national director Denis Davila refutes, telling CTV News, "There is no discrimination here at all. You can look at it the way she wants to look at it ... but we all have to follow the same rules."

Miss Universe Canada says that Talackova indicated on her registration form that she was born a female but later admitted that she was born a male.

Here's the thing: Whether you are applying for a job at Arby's or as a beauty pageant contestant in Canada, you can't lie on your application form.

I can see where this is tricky. Women already earn, on average, 23 percent less than men. Sadly, pageants are one constant where we can compete on a level playing field. A playing field where we compete in high heels and fake eyelashes, but a fair one nonetheless. Then again, she doesn't look like she had any less work done than the rest of Miss Universe contestants, so what's the big deal?

▶ del Rey and Manson?

Del Rey's new beau?

Rumors are swirling that new singing sensation **Lana del Rey** is dating **Marilyn Manson**, according to Hollyscoop. The pair first turned heads when they were spotted "sneaking into an elevator" in Berlin earlier this month, and since then they've reportedly been spending a lot of time together — like grabbing dinner before del Rey's performance at the Echo Awards. After the show, del Rey and Manson left together in a van.

There are three things I will never understand in life: the world's fascination with someone as boring as **Kim Kardashian**, people who don't like books, and how Marilyn Manson gets women. Can someone explain this to me?

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

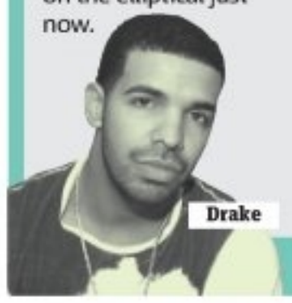
Today, Drake has his eye on an older woman, Russell Crowe isn't impressed with modern cars, Kelly Osbourne is having dog problems, and Sarah Silverman is working for change.

@Drake: Natasha McElhone I know you don't have twitter cause you are a mature British goddess...but I love you.

@russellcrowe: this isn't funny but I saw an Acura plough in to the back of a beautiful Beauford today,Acura smashed,not a scratch on the real steel car

@MissKellyO: sid keeps throwing up he has been to the vet 3 times and its still happening I'm starting to get worried i think my dog is puppy-rexic!

@SarahKSilverman: I'm so proud to be the founder of "WOMEN & MEN UNITE", a global movement I made up on the elliptical just now.



Drake

Talking points

Witherspoon talks womb with kids

Before getting pregnant, **Reese Witherspoon** reportedly ran the idea by Ava, 12, and Deacon, 8, the two children she already has, according to People magazine. "All along, Reese has been very open with her kids about her plans to expand the family," a source says. "Especially [because] Ava is at a sensitive age, Reese always makes sure to consult with her. She is very respectful of Ava's feelings."

Fox and Green are sued

Megan Fox and **Brian Austin Green** are being sued by a photographer over an alleged altercation in Hawaii last December, according to TMZ. **Delbert Shaw** claims he was attacked by Green after being spotted snapping pictures of the couple on the beach near the Four Seasons Resort in Hualalai, with Fox egging her husband on, saying, "Are you going to let him get away with that?" Shaw says Green proceeded to beat him before throwing his iPhone into the water.

▶ Brian Austin Green

Lohan's continuing legal problems

Lindsay Lohan's recent alleged run-in with a man outside a Hollywood club might still cause some headaches for the troubled actress. **Thaer Kamal** claims Lohan struck him with her car and fled the scene, and he's even gone so far as to hire high-priced attorney **Mark Geragos** to prove it, according to TMZ. Geragos reportedly contacted Lohan's lawyer claiming to have video evidence of Lohan hitting Kamal, then switching places with her passenger. Kamal reportedly told witnesses he wasn't injured but then decided to go to the hospital when he learned that Lohan had been in the car.

A little celebrity fun overseas and in Los Angeles

1. Nicole Scherzinger of the Pussycat Dolls attended the Malaysian Formula One Grand Prix at the Sepang Circuit on Sunday in Malaysia.

2. Helena Bonham Carter and her matching boyfriend **Tim Burton** arrived at the Jameson Empire Awards — which is kind of like a People's Choice Awards but for British people — on Sunday in London.

3. Gerard Butler caught the game between the Memphis Grizzlies and the Los Angeles Lakers at the Staples Center on Sunday.

4. Singer-songwriter **Feist** performed at Royal Albert Hall on Sunday in London.

5. Gary Oldman picked up the best actor gong for "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" at the Jameson Empire Awards on Sunday in London.

6. Matthew Morrison (his hair really is fantastic) was spotted by the paparazzi outside of BBC Radio One yesterday in London.

1: PAUL GILHAM/GETTY IMAGES
2,5: DAVE M. BENETT/GETTY IMAGES
3: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES
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Drinking in the new 'Delta Spirit'

Folk rock band's latest self-titled album is a familiar, yet new, sound

MATT WIGNALL

▶ Vasquez, second from left, says he and the rest of Delta Spirit are "hungrier than ever."

Delta Spirit's lead singer Matt Vasquez loves his whiskey and might not take requests anymore.

The group hosted — and wholeheartedly participated in — an open-invite bar crawl with a couple hundred fans through Brooklyn last month that ended with a private, intimate show.

The unique event, which promoted the release of the band's third and self-titled album, afforded fans the opportunity to drink in the band's new sound.

As fans downed drinks inside the pubs while listening to selections from "Delta Spirit," band members chatted candidly with them about guitar choices and their departure from the rootsy feel of their first two releases.

"We really didn't know what to expect by this. It's been crazy," says Matt Vasquez while having a cigarette outside the final bar on the crawl. "We showed up late to the first bar. ... We got text messages from people saying 'Hey, man. It's packed. You better get here quick,' and that couldn't be more encouraging."

The band wasn't shy about taking pictures or hanging out with fans during the event.

An evolving sound

While walking between bars on the pub crawl, Vasquez spoke of the band's effort to establish its modern rock sound with the new album.

▶ "There's a million ways you can take a song, and we're trying to go in a way that felt more like the 21st century as opposed to harping on the 20th," Vasquez said. "We've always been headed in this direction. It's not like we made a crazy left turn. It's really just ... the next step forward."

"We need more whiskey on this stage," Vasquez called out during the performance after the bar crawl.

Meanwhile, a fan's continuous shouting of "Play 'St. Francis!'" finally caught the attention of Vasquez who agreed to play the song.

However, he paused and smiled midway through the song as he blanked on a verse.

"F— it. I'm drunk," he said, after humming his way through the verse. But he belted out the rest of the song with full force, much to the fans' joy and amusement. "That's what happens when you take requests."

It was a testament to the band's character, which doesn't let anything interfere with putting on a riveting show. And an indication that the band's new sound fits right in with the feel of their older material.

"I think we're hungrier than ever to play energetic music," says Vasquez. "We're always committed."

Delta Spirit
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MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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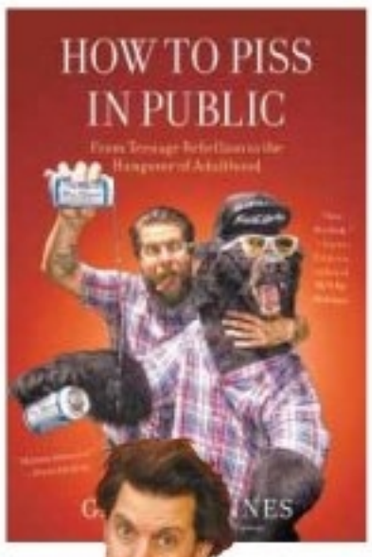
Carpe-ing the diem

In 'How to Piss In Public,' Vice magazine co-founder memorializes four decades of cringe-worthy decadence and makes sure 'urine' for a wild ride

Interviewing a guy like Gavin McInnes after reading a memoir like his "How to Piss in Public" comes across as a sort of inside-out St.-Peter-at-the-Pearly-Gates scenario. Having just been privy to 250-plus pages of ragers, fights, chases, cons and a whole lot of detailed sex, the accused stands before you to earnestly reassure that everything you just read was an absolutely true, if somewhat abbreviated, recounting of a rogue's life. The ordained "Godfather of Hipsters," McInnes has been at turns a rock star, a magazine mogul, a viral video entrepreneur, a bot-fly babysitter, a tundra foreman and, more recently, a daddy. Now, he adds author to his docket. Metro talks to the man who somehow survived his own stories.



How do you feel having all of this put down in a book?
I feel pretty good about it. The great thing about, you know, working so hard on something like that is when people say it sucks, you just go, "Oh, well." I've got a lot of sort of prudish, PC people saying it was disgusting and too outrageous, and the beauty of an autobiography is that you can go "Uh, sorry ... that happened!" ... and I can't change that.

The stories are pretty wild. At one point, you even offer $1,000 to anyone who can back up claims that anything you said in the book is fabricated.
James Frye and all those guys ruined memoir a bit because they lied, so, I don't want you to be reading with one eyebrow cocked going, "Yeah, right."

Did factors like that make memoir a challenging medium?
There's a rut with memoirs. A temptation. You're tempted to indulge yourself and set the record straight on things. You know, Lenny Bruce was obsessed with that. You want to get defensive. But I just cut that out, because I'm not here to sell myself or defend myself. I just have to tell the story and keep it funny.

How would you sum up the book?
Well, I went out to make a funny book but I realized later it was an inspirational instruction how-to guide on carpe-ing the diem.

JIM FENNER
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McInnes's life lessons for his son

I would hope that he pick up on the entrepreneurial stuff," says McInnes when asked what he hoped his son might gain from (someday) reading his memoir. "When you compare yourself to yourself, you're a loser — but when you compare you self to others, you're unstoppable."

TV watch list

KAREN NEAL

▶ Dean Norris of "Body of Proof"

'Body of Proof'

DRAMA. Luke Perry guest stars as a doctor from the CDC who butts heads with medical examiner Megan Hunt (Dana Delany) when a bioterrorist unleashes a deadly virus in Philly. Anyone else hoping it's the same virus that hit the good folks over on "The Walking Dead"? Prime time could use more zombies now that the scary AMC drama is on hiatus, no? **10:01 p.m., ABC**

'Best Ink'

REALITY. More permanent than the calories in a Quickfire Challenge, tattoos are the skill judged in this competition that borrows its format from "Top Chef." **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Oxygen**

'16 and Pregnant'

REALITY. More babies — including a cheerleader and a girl with big college plans — are having babies. **Season premiere, 10 p.m., MTV**

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mywellbeing

Mother-son relationships get an in-depth look

Author Kate Stone Lombardi wanted to know why sons who were close to their moms were called mamas' boys She's out to change the stereotype

With so much attention given to the special bonds between mothers and daughters, fathers and daughters, and fathers and sons, where does that leave mothers and sons? Kate Stone Lombardi, author of "The Mama's Boy Myth: Why Keeping Our Sons Close Makes Them Stronger," sought to find out.

"It's almost been like the elephant in the room," she says. "For some reason no one has looked at the mother-son subject. The world has changed so dramatically and yet we're still sort of stuck in this time bubble when it comes to moms and sons, this idea that them being close is somehow dangerous or wrong. We are long overdue to take a look at this relationship."

CREATAS
▶ Nurturing your boy doesn't mean he'll turn into a sissy, author Kate Stone Lombardi argues.

The author says that society has been quick to reject the idea of a close bond between mother and son because the son can be perceived as weak and the mother overbearing. And while she's not asking moms to raise boys who require a maternal nudge at every turn, she does hope to inspire them to take a more active role in their sons' lives. We wanted to learn more.

How did the idea of the mama's boy start?

I think it goes back to the Oedipus complex. The Oedipus complex is a theory that Freud wrote in 1899 — basically, it's the unconscious desire for a little boy to sleep with his mom. Freud was really writing about the unconscious, and I think we misinterpreted what he was saying. We turned it into the idea that normal, healthy mother-son affection and closeness is somehow wrong and dangerous. And that is just not true — being close to his mother benefits a boy, both when he is young and throughout his life.

How does society benefit from a boy who's close to his mom?

Moms who are close to their boys really teach them emotional intelligence. They teach them how to put their words into feelings. That is gonna serve a boy all through his life. One study showed [that with] guys who had a stronger connection to their moms, their wives and partners rated them as much better communicators. Men who really like and respect their mothers like and respect other women. Research has shown that boys who are forced to separate prematurely from their moms — I'm talking about little guys whose moms stop cuddling them because they think they need to toughen up — go on to have a hard time with women. And the reason is they've learned that the first woman that they've ever loved has pushed them away. Guys who have good, secure attachments with their moms go on to have good relationships.

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Q&A

Why are daddies' girls more revered in our society than mamas' boys?

I think there's really a double standard. I think dads have a lot more freedom when it comes to their daughters. A dad [who] coaches his girl in lacrosse or even teaches her a "masculine" skill like working on a car engine is still a cool dad. For some reason it's not at all the same with moms. If a mom tries to influence her son, people start worrying that she's gonna feminize her boy. But no one worries that the dad is gonna turn his little girl into a boy by teaching her sports. One professor at Bates College studied parents of preschoolers. The parents were totally fine if the little girls [wore] sports jerseys and played with trucks and blocks, but the same did not extend for little boys. They were OK if little boys played in the kitchen a bit, but that's it. There is a double standard.

Family ties

What does your own son — an adult — think about you writing this book?

I think he has mixed feelings. He's read it, of course, and there's some personal anecdotes about my son in the book. But that said, he's not at all ashamed of our relationship — he's pretty proud of it.

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Letters

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We are all Trayvon? Mixed bag on crime

RE: "TRAYVON MARTIN: JUSTICE SERVED?": To Mr. Dupont's ranting from the bubble: Trayvon Martin was a real person, shot with a real bullet, who is now really dead.
SCOTT KEELEY, VIA E-MAIL

Law enforcement personnel are trained not to use excessive force. The average person cannot be held to such a standard as she/he is not officially trained and obligated to "properly" deter a crime; ordinary citizens have the right to protect themselves.
LUCY MARTINEZ, VIA E-MAIL

The Trayvon Martin tragedy is an American tragedy because we all lose. This shouldn't be a black or white issue; it's an American issue. Young innocent children and adults are being wounded and injured by gun-wielding knuckleheads everyday. Where is the outcry for all those other innocent lives? Let's not be hypocrites!
JAMES M. HAWKINS, VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Dupont, no white person living today is responsible for racism! But history has what is called "consequences." No action is without consequences. When you run a red light, there's a bill that must be paid. **TONY D. KING, VIA E-MAIL**

In response to Mr. DuPont's statement about the "Black Panthers intimidating whites at voting booths" — that was not, in fact, the case. That tactic was employed by a different group incorrectly associated with the Black Panthers. And though I am not a member of either group, I am a proud African-American woman who can't stand by allowing blame to be placed on a group when the action was clearly not their own. Check your facts!
FELECIA MYERS, VIA E-MAIL

While I agree that discussion of the Martin shooting shouldn't be limited to race, Dupont should've quit there. Instead he cites the "Black Panthers intimidating white voters" story, established as more fiction than fact. Let's not fool ourselves: We all have prejudices of some kind. We need to keep those from dictating our interactions and discussions.
JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA E-MAIL

I was raised among prejudice. In my lifetime, I've experienced race riots, been called degrading racial names and much worse. I am black. Yet I am very educated, I speak and write Japanese, have many friends of almost every ethnic background, pronounce English almost as perfectly as you and enjoy life, culture, nature and architecture. Was I given the chance to show I am no threat?
PIERRE SIMS, VIA E-MAIL

Can't blame GOP for everything, can we?

RE: "WILL HEALTH CARE SURVIVE COURT DECISION?": Mr. Simms blames Republicans for almost anything and everything. Now he blames the Bush administration for putting us in debt! But Obama can't do anything wrong. Obama only doubled our total debt in the first two years; it took Bush all eight years to up the debt by a trillion. Now he blames the Republican party for health care. Romney did it in Massachusetts, but he is not the whole Republican party. Brayden is a shill for the Obama administration and not a political analyst.
IGOR MANNIKUS, VIA E-MAIL

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Horoscope

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Although your fertile imagination will supply you with many brilliant ideas, unless you implement at least some of them they'll be of little value.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** A better-than-usual day in terms of your finances is not a signal to loosen up the purse strings, especially if you do so to gratify a stray whim.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** As long as you don't allow negative inclinations to weaken your resolve, you should be able to successfully promote a promising idea. Remain positive throughout the day.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Although conditions for personal acquisition look good, you need to be smart about how you handle your newfound wealth. If you go on a spending spree, all that you gained will slip away rapidly.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Social involvements with friends should prove to be rather pleasant — as long as you don't get carried away and spend more than you can afford. Leave the credit cards at home.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** There is nothing wrong with fulfilling your ambitious aspirations, but only if you don't do so at the expense of others. If it is, you may lose more than you gain.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** In order to get your points across, you should try not to be coy or circuitous when explaining them. The best way to state your case is in an enthusiastic, direct manner.

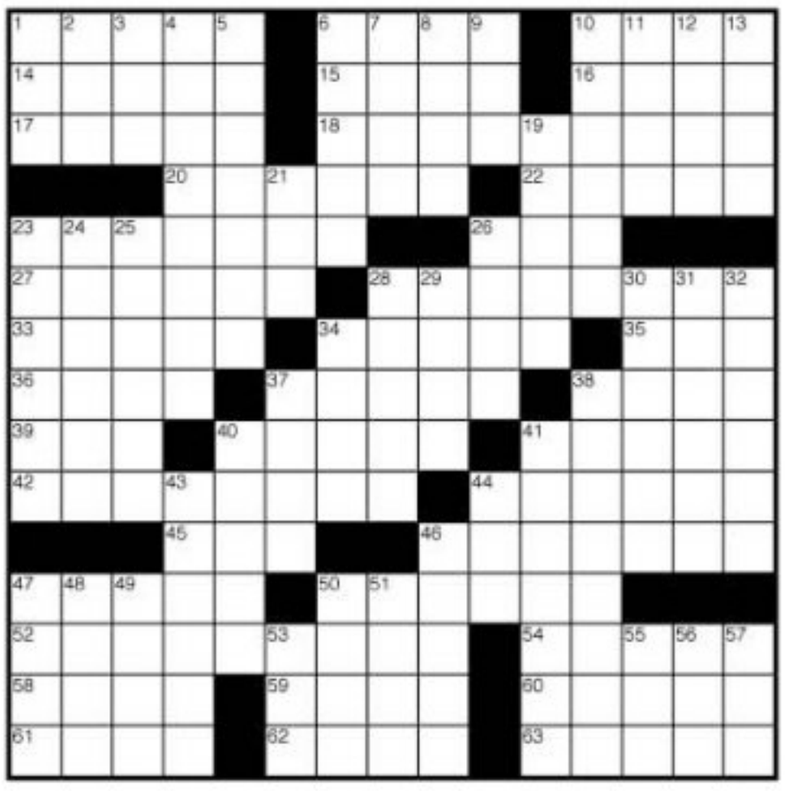
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The ability to improve upon some basic ideas of others is one of your better assets. If and when your schemes work out well, make sure you get some of the credit.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If a partnership is to work out well, both you and your cohort must be in total agreement — down to the last detail. When you are, it will be a slam dunk.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** You have what it takes to accomplish a lot — but remember, you still have your limitations. Establish reasonable objectives that you can complete.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** In order to maintain a smooth relationship with a valued friend, do not intentionally or even accidentally pry into personal matters he or she wishes to keep secret.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** When it comes to your work or something you're tying to accomplish, much productivity can be achieved through consistency and tenacity. Do not involve yourself in what you can't finish. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**



Across
1 Purview
6 Kind of radio
10 Relief org.
14 Hawk's gripper
15 Sufficient space
16 During
17 Resided
18 Cul-de-sac, of sorts (2 wds.)
20 Tart
22 "__ la vista, baby!"
23 Not so callow
26 Lettuce layer
27 Mounted the soapbox
28 In a proper manner
33 Clad
34 Films
35 Fair-hiring practice abbr.
36 Jan. 1 word
37 Used an auger
38 Pasternak heroine
39 Compass dir.
40 Does a horoscope
41 Nuisances
42 Begin a journey (2 wds.)
44 Hold a grudge
45 Big Band __
46 Draw
47 Breezing through
50 Intelligent
52 Kids like Mozart
54 Insurance giant
58 More than satisfy
59 Go over proofs
60 Carried on
61 Sharif or Bradley
62 Helen of Troy's mother
63 Big Dipper neighbor

Down
1 Norm, briefly
2 Harsh call
3 Pamplona yell
4 Unclean
5 Came onstage
6 Lattice
7 Gaze dreamily
8 Alluring
9 XXI times C
10 Variety of goose
11 Grant and Irving
12 Barrel of laughs
13 Ms. Ferber
19 Throat-clearing sounds
21 Kind of student
23 Bog
24 Galvanize
25 Yellow pad
26 Multiplied
28 Inlet, to Angus
29 Change for a five
30 Less fatty
31 Golfer__ Ochoa
32 On the rise
34 Haggling topic
37 Vamp Theda __
38 Fairly recently (2 wds.)
40 Pooch from Wales
41 Half a large dog
43 Cowcatcher
44 Vive le __!
46 Tasty carbohydrate
47 Lhasa __
48 Hit the books
49 Smidgen
50 Wait awhile
51 Green Hornet's alter ego
53 Mousse alternative
55 Water-power org.
56 Toshiba rival
57 "Much __ About Nothing"

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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7				3	6	1		
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	5	7	4					6
		8	1		5			

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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destinations

5 Hottest party spots in Latin America

▶ Those in-the-know vacationing in Punta del Este, Uruguay, avoid the crowds and head straight for the charming fishing village of Jose Igancio, a short hop down the coast, where you would be hard-pressed not to bump into a supermodel while kicking back over a long, lazy lunch at the beach restaurant La Huella (www.paradorlahuella.com).

Must-see

Punta del Este, Uruguay

Combine long, rolling stretches of stunning coastline with understated elegance and legendary private parties and you have yourself a recipe for success that has turned Punta del Este into one of the world's hottest spots for some fun in the sun.

Party: After turning on the charm to talk your way into the best of the private parties, head to nightclub Tequila on Calle 11 La Barra, which has floor-to-ceiling disco balls.

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As the party season starts to seriously heat up in South America, Paul Irvine, director of luxury Latin America travel specialists Dehouche (www.dehouche.com) gives the inside track on the hottest places to cut loose

Buenos Aires, Argentina
With wide, tree-lined avenues, a thriving cultural scene and sophisticated nightlife, Buenos Aires deserves its reputation as the Paris of Latin America. During summer months, the city springs to life. Jet-set polo players mix with international rock stars and the beautiful locals who flit from secret cocktail bars to open-air nightclubs.
Party: Our favorite hidden haunt is cocktail bar Franks. Armed with a secret password, you need to punch a code into the keypad of a British telephone box, and upon whispering the magic words, the door will swing open to reveal a Prohibition-style bar complete with chandeliers and an impressive lineup of DJs **(www.franks-bar.com)**.

Buzios, Brazil
Located two hours down the coast from Rio de Janeiro, Buzios is the epitome of laid-back, barefoot beach chic and attracts both a heady mix of Brazilian glitterati and an international crowd drawn to its myriad beautiful beaches.
Party: Set on a beautifully rugged horseshoe bay where the rhythmic pattern of waves draws the local surfers, Rocka is the definition of the perfect beach lounge. Dream away the afternoon drinking caipirinhas on loungers until after sunset, when the deck transforms into a dance floor **(www.rockafish.com)**.

Cartagena, Colombia
The glistening jewel of the Caribbean, Cartagena well deserves its reputation as one of Latin America's most beautiful cities. Its sun-dappled squares house a fantastic selection of boutique hotels and bars.
Party: Slip outside the city to Bar Havana. The old-school bar serves the best mojitos outside Cuba and live salsa bands play into the night **(www.cafehavanacartagena.com)**.

▶ Set right in the heart of the action of Trancoso, Uxua Casa Hotel is the coolest place to stay in town.

Trancoso, Brazil

A former hippie town at the heart of the Brazilian Bahia coastline, Trancoso's winning combination of beautiful beaches, lilting, laidback rhythm and vibrant social scene have turned it into a favorite hideaway for the international jet set.
Party: During the high season, Brazil's best clubs descend on Trancoso to host pop-up events on the beach with a stellar lineup of international DJs.

PAUL IRVINE
travel@metro.lu

Looking to give Timmy a rest

Turco's win gives previously sluggish B's confidence going forward ◗ Third line continues to roll as playoffs near ◗ Big picture looks bright as Bruins sign big piece of their future

The Bruins return home to TD Garden tonight (7:30, NBCSN) triumphant, having taken care of business on the West Coast with back-to-back weekend wins over Los Angeles and Anaheim. Now ahead five points in the Northeast Division with seven games to play, the Bruins can spend what should be a relatively easy week preparing for the postseason. Here are three things to watch between now and Saturday:

It's Turco time

Marty Turco did more than just pick up his first victory of the season Sunday night. By helping the Bruins increase their division lead, and by doing it with some sharp saves, Turco gave the Bruins much-needed confidence and cushion to continue playing him the remainder of the regular season, allowing Tim Thomas to get desperately needed rest. Do not be surprised to see Turco in net twice this week, perhaps even in back-to-back games Thursday at home against Washington and Saturday against the Islanders in New York. That would give Thomas four days off between games.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bruins backup goaltender Marty Turco earned his first win of the season Sunday in Anaheim.

Keep the line moving

Rich Peverley made his return to the lineup Sunday night after missing 19 games with a leg injury, a stretch that saw the Bruins go 8-10-1. But Peverley did not return to his former position on the third line, as the trio of Brian Rolston, Chris Kelly and Benoit Pouliot has produced 26 points during the past six games. Keeping that line percolating into the postseason could be key to another run at the Cup.

Torey story

The Bruins inked another piece of their future last weekend, and the future could be now for Torey Krug. The 20-year-old junior defenseman from Michigan State signed with the Bruins on Saturday and will practice with the team today, and could see game action this week.

Krug finished his Spartans career with a career-high 12 goals and 22 assists for 34 points this season.

"(Krug) is a very intelligent player who is a terrific skater and shooter," B's GM Peter Chiarelli said. "But what stands out the most with Torey is his character. He is a two-time captain and a tremendous competitor."

JEFF GOLDBERG
sports@metro.us

3

ON TV TODAY

NHL

LIGHTNING AT BRUINS
7:30 P.M., NBCSN

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Men who are 60 years and older are needed for a two visit study evaluating effects of low testosterone on body fat, muscle, physical function and risk factors for heart disease. If you suffer from pain and are on pain medications you may qualify.

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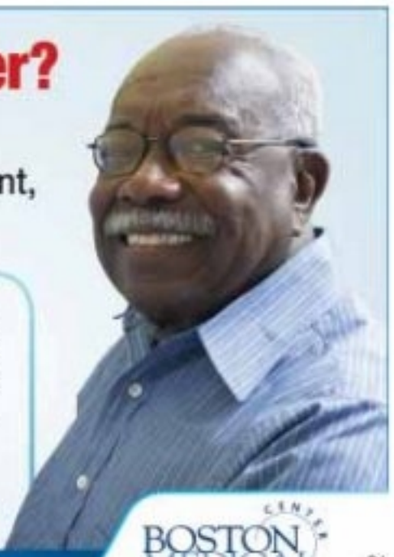

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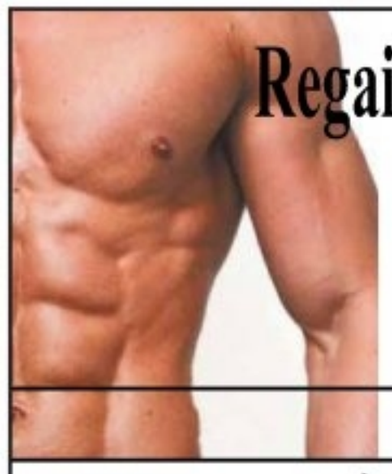

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Parcells to come back?

Sean Payton has approached his mentor, Bill Parcells, about coaching the Saints this season, ESPN reported Monday.

Payton was suspended last week for the entire 2012 season in response to the discovery of his team's defense placing bounties on opposing players to knock them out of games.

The AP is reporting that while Payton has spoken to Parcells, the subject matter hasn't been directly regarding taking over head coaching duties in New Orleans. Parcells said the conversations have been about how to handle having to sit out the season.

The bounty program was apparently run by defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, who is suspended indefinitely. Williams was set to join the Rams as their new defensive coordinator. METRO

All in the family

Chris Simms, son of Parcells pupil and CBS analyst Phil Simms, is set to join the Patriots as an assistant coach, according to footballscoop.com.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bill Parcells could make yet another return to the NFL.

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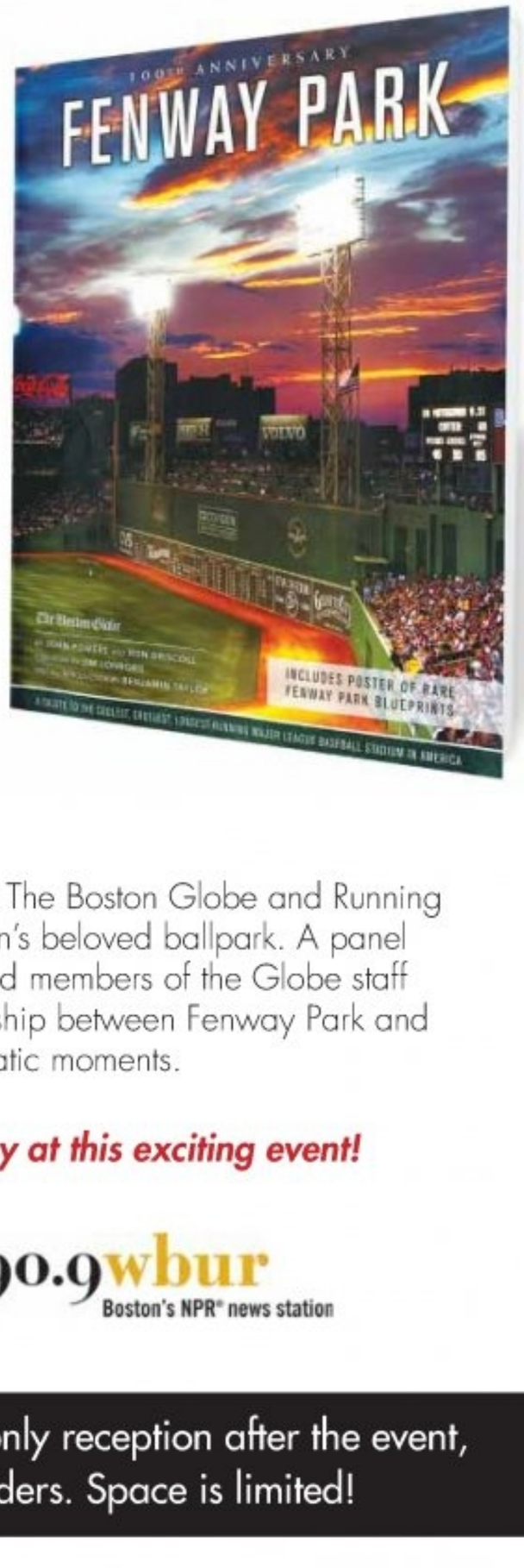

Go inside "Fenway Park," a new book from The Boston Globe and Running Press, at this special event celebrating Boston's beloved ballpark. A panel discussion featuring WBUR's Bill Littlefield and members of the Globe staff will take you inside the century-long relationship between Fenway Park and the newspaper that chronicles its most dramatic moments.

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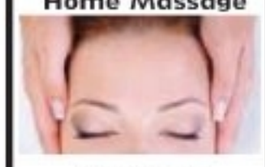

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